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Rocky Mountain Area

US Army Corps of Engineers

Omaha District

D103.2:

Omaha District
Civil & Military Boundaries

Omaha District Military Boundary
Omaha District Civil Boundary
K.I. Sawyer and Wurtsmith Air Force Bases in Michigan are also Omaha District military projects.

The mission . . .

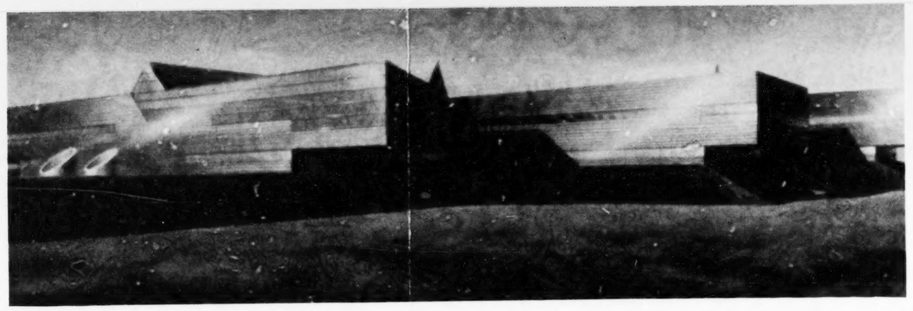
The Rocky Mountain Area conducts business affairs for the Omaha District, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers in the state of Colorado.

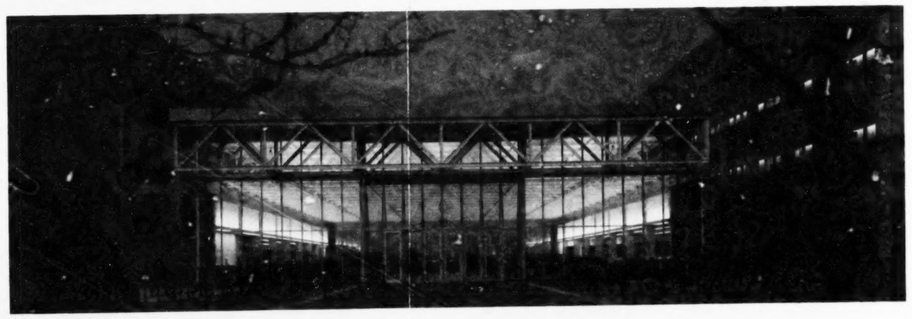
The Rocky Mountain Area has two sets of boundaries. Its responsibilities include military and civil works. In addition, the area supports the U.S. Federal Emergency Management Agency, the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission and the Environmental Protection Agency.

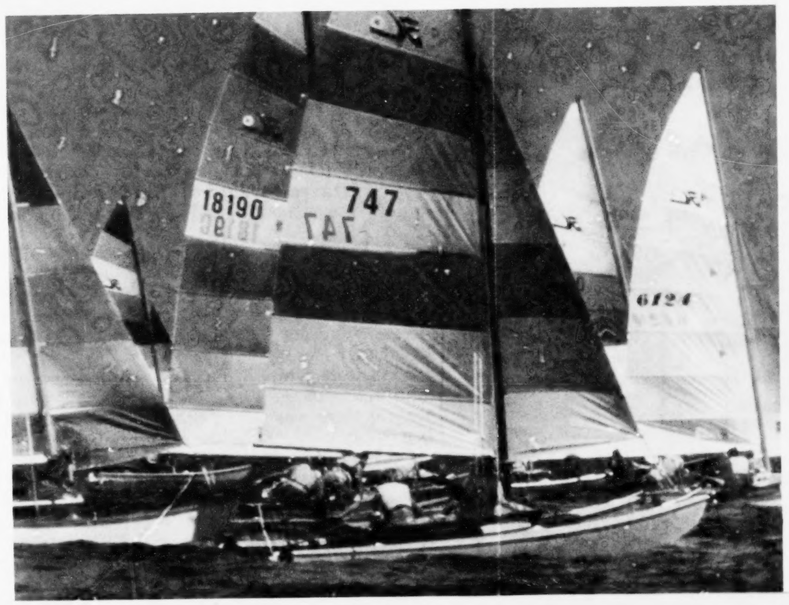
Area personnel are active in the community, participating in workshops and seminars. The Area sponsors educational programs, such as the Junior Ranger Program, and is involved with civic organizations.

For more information, contact the Rocky Mountain Area Engineer, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Omaha District, 2860 S. Circle Drive, North Building, Suite GL-10, Colorado Springs, CO 80906-4188, telephone (303) 579-9330.

Military construction . . . is the primary focus of the Rocky Mountain Area. Some of the major projects include the Evans Army Community Hospital at Fort Carson (below), the Space Command Headquarters near Peterson AFB (upper right) and the U.S. Air Force Academy library addition (lower right), winner of the Dept. of Defense Blue Seal Award in 1984.

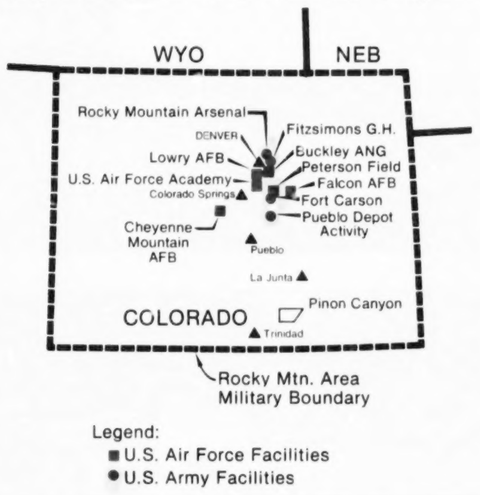






Recreation opportunities . . . abound all year 'round in the Rocky Mountain Area. Those interested in sailing, ice-fishing, hiking, camping and skiing, among other things, flock to corps lakes in Colorado.

Rocky Mountain Area Military Projects



Military works . . .

The Rocky Mountain Area activities focus primarily on military construction. Customers include the Army and Air Force commands throughout Colorado. Historically, many of the area's projects have been of national significance and vital to the nation's welfare.

Major Air Force work includes projects at the U.S. Space Command Headquarters, the Consolidated Space Operations Center, the Cheyenne Mountain Air Force Station and the National Test Facility for the Strategic Defense Initiative.

The Rocky Mountain Area serves the Army at Fort Carson, including the Donald W. Evans, Jr. Army Community Hospital. It was also responsible for the acquisition and development of the 244,000-acre Pinon Canyon Maneuver Site.

The Fitzsimons Army Medical Center, one of only eight like it in the world, is also served by the Rocky Mountain Area.

Other responsibilities include construction for Army and Air Force reserve units at various sites in Colorado.

The area also deals with complex industrial problems, such as pollution containment at the Rocky Mountian Arsenal north of Denver.

Civil works . . .

The area's civil works boundary is dictated by the North Platte and South Platte River basin. These responsibilities include operating and maintaining Corps of Engineers flood control structures and responding to emergencies.

Three dams—Cherry Creek, Chatfield and Bear Creek—have prevented $170 million in flood damages, equaling the cost of construction of the three projects. The Westerly Creek Project will provide additional flood protection to the Denver Metropolitan Area.

Corps lakes offer visitors many recreational opportunities, such as swimming, boating, fishing, skiing, camping, horseback riding, hiking, target shooting and nature studies.

In fact, Cherry Creek and Chatfield rank one-two in the Colorado State Park system for visitation.

The area is also the initial point of contact for technical assistance and for issuing permits required by the Clean Water Act.

For more information on either military or civil activities, contact the Platte River Resident Engineer, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Omaha District, 9300 Colorado State Highway 75, Littleton, CO 80125, (303) 979-4120.

Rocky Mountain Area Civil Projects

The Tri-lakes . . .

Like three 'round-the-clock sentinels they stand, the Tri-Lakes projects protecting Denver from its old nemesis, the flood.

Citizens concerned for the area's future banded together in the 1930's and persisted until Cherry Creek Dam was authorized in the early forties.

Ten years later, the $15-million guardian was a reality, standing between Denver and the flash floods of yesteryear. In June 1965 alone, the project prevented more than $130 million in damages.

That same catastrophic rainfall which touched off the June 1965 flood wrought $300 million in damages and 13 deaths along the South Platte River, which flows like a main artery through the heart of Denver. By 1967 the Chatfield Lake Project was authorized and it was completed in 1976.

Bear Creek Lake, located in Lakewood, stands guard eight miles upstream from where Bear Creek and the South Platte River meet. It normally contains nearly 2,000 acre-feet of water for recreation purposes and in time of flood can store 78,000 acre-feet.

As visitors camp, fish or sail peacefully on the calm waters of the Tri-Lakes projects, it is hard to imagine there was once a time when recreation was barely a consideration. It was a distant second to flood control back in the days when floods were a reality . . . .

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